



SPIRITUAL FRONTIERS FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter

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MIDWEST MEETING OF SCIENTISTS

A meeting of scientists, physical and medical, was held at the home of the Chairman of SFF Research, Macatawa, Michigan, October 31-November 2, 1969.

This is the first time since the organization of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship in 1956 that scientists who are both members of SFF and actively engaged in work in other fields, have been brought together to discuss interests and problems relative to psychical research in general and in particular the aims of the Fellowship in relation to its research program and opportunities.

The scientist who chaired the meeting expressed himself as feeling that a good deal had been accomplished and that there would be further details and more elaboration given at a later date, including the Annual Report of the Chairman of the Research Committee.

All who attended this meeting were enthusiastic about the contribution which scientifically oriented research could make to the research program of SFF, and expressed the hope of the Chairman that other similar meetings and area group meetings of scientists take place when funds to assist in travel might be made available.

- Mary S. Sharp
Chairman, SFF Research Committee

AREA PROGRAMS

● New York City - On March 2, 7:30 P.M., Father Joseph Langdon will lecture on the mystical or psychic elements of the Eastern Orthodox Church which will include discussion of healing, clairvoyance and bi-location....March 15, 4:00 P.M., Brother Mandus will conduct a Healing Service. Both meetings to be held at the Lexington Avenue Methodist Church, 150 E. 62nd Street in New York City.

● Woodbury, New Jersey - Tuesday, March 17, 8:00 P.M. a lecture will be given by Berthold Eric Schwarz, M.D., author of The Jacques Romano Story. Dr. Schwarz is a physician specializing in psychiatry and is a contributor to scientific journals along with co-authoring other volumes. Title of his lecture, "A Psychiatrist Explores ESP and UFO's". At Christ Episcopal Church.

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FROM THE DESK OF THE CHAIRMAN OF SFF RESEARCH

"Still, to me the greatest thrill will always be to notice for the first time what everybody has always seen."

Hans Seyle, M.D.

It has been suggested that the Research Committee undertake to correlate all information relating to greater cooperation between the spiritual approach to healing and that of the physician, surgeon and hospital; that from this might come the preparation of a pamphlet to be distributed in an effective manner.

The members of the Fellowship whose research interests perhaps lie in other directions, there is suggested the possibility of undertaking a project in survival research along the lines indicated by Dr. J.H.M. Whiteman, (Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, University of Capetown, Rondebosch, C.P., South Africa).^{*} He believes that the best way to approach the study of personal entities that might have survived death is by special attention to the phenomena generally termed "out-of-the-body" experiences.

Thinking that the sense of reality enjoyed by people having such experiences relative to the entities they encounter while out of their bodies is as real as what we experience when we meet up with other persons in everyday life, (on the basis of which we are in agreement that other personalities exist), Dr. Whiteman writes:

"What I am suggesting is an all out attack on the explicit problems of survival, entailing the collection, systematization, and assessing of events on (a) what may be called 'other-world geography'. . . and (b) experiences of alleged non-physical personalities encountered face to face, especially identification experiences," (such as the well-known experience where a sister, dead for nine years, appeared to her brother with a relevant scar visible on her face).

"I am not aware that any sustained attempts have yet been made to collect or study experiences of the types I have mentioned. Only in this way, it seems to me, will 'survival' cease to be a term loaded with vague presuppositions."

Are there any members of SFF interested in research who would like to initiate research, or if not initiate, to help in either or both of these areas?

Mary S. Sharp
Chairman, SFF Research Committee

^{*} "Evidence of Survival from 'Other-World' Experiences," J.H.M. Whiteman, The Journal of the American Society for Psychical Research, Vol. LIX, April 1965, pp. 160-165.

Ibid., "Symposium: What Next in Survival Research?" W.G. Roll, pp. 146-148.

PSYCHIC PHENOMENA COURSE OFFERED AT FLORISSANT VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE



The Rev. Flanagan

The Rev. James Martin Flanagan, vice-president of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship and chairman of the St. Louis area, is teaching three sections of a course on "Psychic Phenomena" at the Florissant Valley Community College, St. Louis.

The course, offered in the Community Services Division of the college, where Mr. Flanagan teaches English Composition, was originally to have just one class, but enrollment zoomed to nearly 100 and it became necessary to have three classes.

Class sessions will be conducted for a twelve week period which began the week of February 9. It was announced that this was probably the first time that a course in parapsychology has been offered in a junior college. The Florissant Valley Community College is in the Junior College District of St. Louis and St. Louis County.

Among materials which are being used in the class are Introduction to Parapsychology, published by the Parapsychology Foundation, Inc.; a paperback edition of The Unknown--Is It Nearer, by Eric J. Dingwall and John Langdon-Davies; and some editions of Spiritual Frontiers, the SFF Journal.

For 19 years an editor at the Christian Board of Publication, St. Louis, Mr. Flanagan resigned Oct. 1, 1969, to devote himself to teaching, writing and research.

Spiritual Frontiers in the St. Louis area is now in the process of strengthening its work and outreach, with an emphasis on reaching smaller groups in addition to a lecture series.

The course will include some laboratory sessions and will feature some guest lecturers.

An ordained minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Mr. Flanagan has been identified with SFF for nearly a decade and began serious study of psychic phenomena after syndicating an article on the subject for the Associated Church Press while he was serving as interim executive secretary of that organization. The article was written by Frances Dunlap Heron.

Mr. Flanagan attended the ninth annual seminar of the South Florida Chapter of SFF at the University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida.

● Philadelphia, Pa. - Thursday, March 19, 8:00 P.M. the Rev. and Mrs. David McKnight will present a lecture, "Windows to Heaven." Both Mr. and Mrs. McKnight are graduates of Union Theological Seminary and have begun Rescue Mediumship Work. The lecture will be held at Arch Street United Methodist Church, Broad and Arch Streets, Phila.

● Augusta, Ga. - Ted Swager will be in Augusta for three days in March. For more information, contact Mrs. Jane Hudson.

● Chicago, Ill. - On March 20, Chicago's own well-known psychic, Mrs. Irene Hughes, will be the speaker. Meeting to be held at the Chicago Temple.

S. F. F. Study Series: THE PARANORMAL IN THE BIBLE
Lesson 12 -- February, 1970
Subject: MEDITATION (From "A Prayer of Awareness" by Charles S. Nichols)

Physical preparation: Sit or lie in as comfortable a position as possible. Let the head balance easily. Slowly take three deep breaths and as you exhale let the body relax completely. Let your lower jaw relax and drop enough to part the jaws. Let the tongue lie loosely in the mouth. Now, proceed with the prayer.

FATHER, I become aware of your presence. I do so with joy because I know that I am within your purpose, -that you are working out your purpose through me. I feel this strongly. I want to free my body, mind and spirit of any condition that prevents your purpose from being fulfilled in me.

I now free the body, which you have loaned me, of any unnecessary tenseness or in-harmony of any kind. I present my body to you so that every cell, every gland, every organ, every part, every system--whether I have named it or not--from the bottoms of my feet to the top of my head is free to do the work for which you created it -- to do your will. I now present my body. The feet and ankles -- the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them. The legs and knees -- the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them. I feel your peace flow into my body filling it with quietness, stillness, deep peace. The thighs and hips -- the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them. All up and down the back; muscles leading to, from and around; all of the long muscles up and down the back are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them. All through the abdomen and chest the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them.

(I take a deep breath.) I know that as I breathe I am filling my lungs with your loving, healing, life-giving, creative Spirit. I realize that in every molecule of air I breathe is your life-giving Spirit. I fill my lungs with your Spirit. I know that your life-giving Spirit flows through my lungs into my blood stream and is then carried to every cell of my body from the bottom to the top. As I breathe in your Spirit now I feel that Spirit flow to every cell in my body. As I exhale, I let out the impurities and continue to relax as I have seen animals do. Throughout my shoulders, arms, elbows, wrists, hands and fingers the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them. At the back of my head, on either side, all around it--my forehead, eyes, nose, cheeks, mouth, chin, ears--the muscles are relaxed, supple, free, and your peace is filling them.

FATHER, my body is now free--every cell, every gland, every organ, every part, every system is now free to do the work for which you created it, -to do your will. It is doing so now and will continue to do so. My heart is normal. It is free to do the work for which you created it. The blood stream is normal, flowing throughout the whole body doing the work you created it to do. Every gland, large and small, is normal. The bones are normal. The muscles are normal. The lymphatic system is normal. The digestive system is normal. The elimination system is normal. The respiratory system is normal. The nervous system is normal. The flesh is normal. The skin is normal. FATHER, this body is yours. Every part is now free, -is doing the work for which you created it easily, naturally, normally and will continue to do so. This body is filled with your harmony, your wholeness, your well-being, your peace.

I now free the mind, which you have entrusted to my care, from any limitation, tenseness, or inharmony by which any idea has been warped in its meaning, twisted from its rightful purpose, or limited from expressing your infinite wisdom. I lay aside these limitations as I would set down a heavy load to rest. As thoughts that have worried me come to mind I let go of the fear, worry, or anxiety I allowed to dominate them - thoughts from the past, about the present, or reaching into the future. These limitations no longer have any power over me. They are only memories. I now open my mind to the power of your spirit to free every thought until it becomes filled, guided and directed by your Spirit. I take each idea and free it and bless it with your love so that, as I continue to think it, ways become clear to direct its work for you. I bless each idea with your healing power, so that as I continue to think it, I see how it will release healing power, right wrongs, mend broken friendships, establish rela-

(over)

tionships as I give "the cup of cold water" in His Name. I bless and free each idea with your life-giving power. Now I see that as I use your life-giving power others will gain hope, and faith, and confidence. Now life will be given to them by you. I bless and free each idea with your creative power. I understand your work is always going on and needs to go forward. I see how every idea I have can help you as you guide the Universe in your continuous creation. My mind is now free, open, and your spirit is blessing every idea with love, with healing, life-giving, creative power.

I now free every thought to be filled with your infinite wisdom. The thoughts in my mind now bring me joy, faith, hope, love, confidence--a sense of worth to you--and give me a purpose for which to live which is in harmony with your Will. My mind is free, --is allowing your Spirit to release your infinite wisdom in every thought I have. My mind is not fulfilling the purpose for which you created it.

I now free my spirit. I let go of any unnecessary tense or inharmonious spiritual and emotional experience, no matter what it is, what was said or done, with whom it happened, where it happened, or when it happened. Such experiences are only memories now. They no longer have any power over me. As I think of these I lay them aside one by one. I open my spirit to the power of your Spirit. If anyone needs to be forgiven, I forgive -- easily, joyously, and completely. I open the door of my heart and let your Spirit come in and mingle with my spirit and mine with yours until we are one as Jesus said, "I am in the Father and He is in me and we are one." Now I am at peace. My mind is at peace. My spirit is at peace. I let your peace fill me completely. (PAUSE!)

I now let your peace fill my heart and life with new purpose. I let it flow to my mind and fill each thought so full of the power of peace that if there is something I need to endure I will have the inner peace to steady me to endure it. When I face problems that take time for their solution this peace gives me the inner patience I need. When I find myself in confusing circumstances this inner peace will help me to have thoughts that guide me in the right direction. This peace now flows out to every cell in my body, calling upon it to do the work for which it was created -- easily, naturally, normally; each part working together as a harmonious whole, a willing servant to the mind and spirit, directed by your purpose, fulfilling your will.

Your loving, healing, life-giving, creative Spirit goes with me now as I see every member of my family, my friends, the people of my community, of the United States, of the world as I see every flower, plant, tree, all different forms of life on land, in the water and air, even to distant planets and stars. (PAUSE!) My thoughts now move back to my world, nation, state, city, home, to myself and I know that you are working out your purpose through me.

I think of those for whom I would like to pray by name. I hold _____ in your pure, white, loving, healing, life-giving, creative light. I praise and bless your Spirit as it fills _____, surrounds _____, sustains _____, guides _____.

As I go to sleep tonight I will drift into a deep, relaxed, refreshing, healing sleep. I will awaken with a deep feeling of well-being -- body, mind, and spirit as I will do now at the close of this prayer. As I face each new day I do so with joy knowing that your spirit goes before me and prepares the way.

And now when I say, "Amen." the prayer will be finished but my awareness of your Spirit will remain with me. And now may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with me now and remain with me.

AMEN.

This meditation prayer is presented this month, Interrupting the series on specific psychic terms related to events in the bible, to give the members something different on which to work and as an aid in spiritual development. Your editor, for his own use, has put this on tape so that he can listen to it and not be involved in the distraction of reading. Try it!

Our appreciation to Charlee S. Nichols for this meditation prayer. We trust he will not object to the slight editing necessary to fit it into the allotted space.

-c.l.p.

NEW SFF STUDY GROUP GUIDE AVAILABLE

SFF holds that an excellent stimulant to the spiritual growth of the individual is participation in a small, like-minded group. To encourage such groups and to have a reply for the many requests for help in forming study groups, a Procedures Guide for the Formation and Conducting of Spiritual Frontiers Fellowship Study Groups has been prepared.

The Study Group Committee calls this 'simply a booklet of suggestions'. There is nothing dogmatic, no 'definitive format', in the suggestions given. Much of the material is a presentation of how successful groups operate. There are comments and suggestions by several well-known personalities.

Potential groups often fail to start or to grow because of lack of leadership. The suggestions here will encourage even the hesitant to go ahead with confidence.

Paperbound, the booklet contains 44 pages, 8 1/2 by 11 inches, and sells for \$1.50. Place orders through the Evanston office.

ADDITIONAL LIBRARY DONATIONS

Christian Science and Its Discoverer,
E. Mary Ramsay

Sin, Sex, and Self Control,
Norman Vincent Peale

A Guide Through the After Death Experience,
H. Charles Berner

Scientology 8-80, L. Ron Hubbard

Toward A Psychology of Being,
Abraham Maslow

Scientology, A New Slant on Life,
L. Ron Hubbard

Nuclear Evolution, Christopher B. Hills

Psychic Photography, Hans Holzer

Do You Believe in Miracles?,
Arthur Armbrust

Out of the Mouths of Babes, Aileen Cooke

Life After Death: The Challenge and the Evidence, Hans Holzer

The Gospel of the Hereafter,
J. Patterson Smyth

Learning to Talk to the World Beyond,
Ralph Knight

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